# NeoPopRealism Journal

## News Archives March-April, 2010

### Madrid: Martin Rramirez

The work of Martín Ramírez (1895-1963) can be classified as outsider art, or as «art of the mad». The Mexican artist, suffering from schizophrenia and wishing to flee his country ravaged by the civil war and an economic crisis tried his luck in the California railways. He was unemployed and homeless, in a country where he did not speak the language, and was interned in 1931. A self-taught artist, he produced his own colors by melting tubes in his pot, and his paper by assembling bits of paper glued with raw potatoes and saliva. Fearing a contagion from his tuberculosis, his drawings were thrown in the trash, until a psychiatrist in the early 50s saw an artistic dimension in them. Of his nearly 500 drawings, 60 of them are shown in this first European exhibition of Ramírez' work. Ramirez never them together, but his obsessive themes are recurrent. It is stags and riders, tunnels, geometric landscapes.

*Martin Ramírez. Marcos de reclusión* at the Museo Reina Sofía, from 30 March to 12 July, 2010

### Paris: Tao Aesthetics

Lao Tseu, the tutelary figure who presumably lived during the VIth century B.C., was rather a figure that awakened consciences, a guide on the path to justice and wisdom. Taoism, one of the pillars of Chinese civilization next to Buddhism and Confucianism, is a philosophy that represents to the Western world all the attraction of mystery and esotericism, symbolized by the concepts of the yin and the yang. The exhibition at the Grand Palais, relying on the collections from the Guimet museum and some foreign museums among which the one from Taiwan, decrypts it through the filter of art. Paintings on silk, limestone sarcophagus, celadon porcelain, bronze sculptures, manuscripts (nearly 250 pieces that survived numerous persecutions and rampages) show how that level of harmony with the cosmos can be reached. *La voie du Tao, l'autre chemin de l'être* at the Grand Palais, from 31 March to 5 July 2010.

The Réunion des musées nationaux takes the opportuni ty of this spiritual fervor to organize its first environmentally-responsible exhibition with re-usable, aluminum supports, paints without solvents and light consumption divided by 20 through LED lighting.

### Pine Forge/ Sage: Aging

*Aging: Concepts and Controversies*, 6th Edition by Harry R. Moody published by Pine Forge Press in 2010. In this book, author provides thorough explanation of the issues in the Concepts sections and current research in the Controversy sections, demonstrating the close link between concepts and controversies in the broad areas of aging. This new edition presents a new controversy that discusses arguments on both the "bust" and the "boom" sides of the issue along with 4 new readings; offers a more logical flow through revised Concepts and Controversies sections; features new photos and updated charts and graphs which contain the most recent U.S. census data; offers new global perspective boxes that provide comparative information on aging in other countries, and much more.

### Russian News

Jailed oligarch Michail Khodorkovsky, who many believe was jailed for political crimes, recently received a literary award from Znamya magazine for his published correspondences with the writer Yulia Ulitskaya, in which they discussed jail, the nature of Russian society, and life.

Recent survey. Russia's Favorite Sons - this survey named three man:
#1 - Yury Gagarin, astronaut - 35%; #2 - Vladimir Vysotsky, actor, singer, songwriter - 31%; #3 - Georgy Zhukov, WWll Marchall - 20%.

**New Page Books: *When God Spoke To Me* and More**

*When GOD Spoke to Me: The Inspiring Stories of Ordinary People Who Have Received Divine Guidance and Wisdom* by DavidPaul Doyle published by New Page Books in 2010. How do you know if you are hearing God's Voice or not? This inspiring book is a collection of stories from people that shares the many God speaks that heal our wounds, provide life-changing guidance, and demonstrate that God's Voice has power to mend our relationships, instill within us profound experience of peace and love. Reader will recognize the ways he/she may already be hearing God's voice without knowing it, and how to receive healing, guidance, and communication from God to change your life. DavidPaul Doyle is an author, he has traveled worldwide conducting workshops to help people open themselves to God's voice and discover their true nature.

*Contactees* by Nick Redferm published by New Page Books in 2010. The era of the flying saucer was ushered in on June 24, 1947. Then, a pilot Kenneth Arnold had an extraordinary airborne encounter at the Cascade Mountains, Washington State. The Air Force grudgingly admitted that of the 12,618 different reports it had investigated between 1947 and 1969, no less than 701 seemingly defied definitive explanation. Military officials were adamant that no evidence existed in support of the notion that alien being were visiting the Earth. Today, years later, the contactees are still telling their stories of personal alien encounters. Nick Redfern is an author and journalist specializing in a wide range of unsolved mysteries, including UFOs.

## Art Exhibitions To Visit

While known today primarily as a fortune telling or occult deck, the Tarot was born out of the intellectual and artistic developments of the Italian Renaissance. Links to the Tarot's icons and symbology can be found in the popular arts, and philosophy of this rich historic period. Influenced by alchemy, Hermetic mysticism and the concept of *Anima Mundi* (the fifth element of life), the Tarot became a conversation between mystics and artists that has lasted over five centuries. This exhibition was curated by Tarot scholar, writer, and artist Robert M. Place. *Fool's Journey* will be on view at CAFAM through April 9, 2010, LA, California. A host of events, including artists' talks, children's workshops, and adult classes, and other cultural adventures will take place during the run of the exhibit.

The sea has been an indispensable element of cultural germination and a symbol of inspiration thanks to the magic of its waters, its legends, its light, the contrast between calmness and roughness and, for that reason, artists have not overlooked these aesthetic sensations. The sea is a psychological allegory that encloses clear antitheses: surfaces and depths, the absence of confines on the horizon and the absence of light in the abyss. Unlike the earth – a symbol of the rational soul – the sea is indeed the metaphor of the heart. It is the figure of the uneasiness that tortures us: of our need to go in pursuit of unknown goals. On view through 10 May, 2010, Valencia, Spain.

Larry Zox: Paintings includes key paintings from the late artist's personal collection, including rare works from the Round Centers and Loops Series. Represented in nearly every major museum in the country, Larry Zox achieved art world prominence in 1973 as the subject of a major retrospective at the Whitney Museum of American Art. New York, NY. Zox's signature style – the splicing of a color field to give the sensation of shifting planes – was pivotal in his early collage paintings, and evolved into the graceful looping patterns of his

later work. The paintings on view in this exhibition reveal the individualism and brio that are the hallmarks of Zox's contribution to American art.

**Introducing: The Ultimate NASCAR's Insiders Track Guide: iPhone App**

iPhone App: Everything you need to plan your race weekend—at any track on the circuit. From dining and shopping to lodging and tips for getting driver autographs, this is the app that every NASCAR fan needs. The home screen features an outline of the track layout; click on a car to get to listings of restaurants, hotels, and area attractions. There is a how-to for ticket purchasing, tips on what you can (and can't) bring in to the grandstands, instructions for using a garage area access pass, and much more.

The app also includes a section on what to do in case of an emergency, whether it's you or your four-legged friend. All phone numbers will automatically dial when clicked for any establishment listed [iPhone only]. You can even e-mail friends to recommend it and buy other circuits right through the app. Each app includes an overview of the track experience, an area map link, and plenty of helpful advice that will make your weekend at the race a memorable experience.

Atlanta

http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/atlanta-the-ultimate-nascar/id353948408?mt=8

Bristol

http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/bristol-the-ultimate-nascar/id353947975?mt=8

Daytona

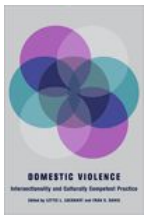
http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/daytona-the-ultimate-nascar/id353734351?mt=8

**What is Sculpture in the 21st Century?**

The International Sculpture Center (ISC) will hold its 22nd International Sculpture Conference – *What is Sculpture in the 21st Century?* in London, UK April 7-9, 2010. Bringing sculptors from all over the globe together, this year's event will focus on the evolution of the definition of sculpture and what this term means. Two and a half day, this event is expected to bring together ISC members and non-members including artists, arts administrators, curators, patrons, museum directors, educators, and students for panels, dialogue and networking. The ISC, which began hosting sculpture conferences over 50 years ago, selected London as the location for its first conference outside of North America, because of it's outstanding and vibrant setting for members of the international sculpture community to meet, network, and converse on what sculpture is during this inaugural international event.

**New Books From Columbia University Press**

*My Life With The Taliban* by Abdul Salam Zaeef, foreword by Barnett R. Rubin published by Columbia University Press in 2010. This book is an autobiography of Abdul Salam Zaeef, a former senior member of Afganistan's Taliban and a principal actor in its domestic and foreign affairs. Zaeef shares his personal history and an experiences as a poor youth in rural Kandahar. He recounts his time with the organization, first as a civil servant and later as a minister who negotiated with foreign oil companies and Ahmed Shan Massoud. Zaeef served as ambassador to Pakistan at the time of 9/11. In 2002, he was delivered to the US forces operating in Pakistan and spent 4 and half years in prison. His reflections offers a privileged look at the communities that form the bedrock of the Taliban and the forces. *Domestic Violence: Intersectionality and Culturally Competent Practice,* edited by Lettie l. Lockhart and Fran S. Danis published by Columbia University Press in 2010. In this book, experts provide the latest research and use a case study approach to demonstrate culturally sensitive intervention strategies. Chapters focus on African American, Native Americans, Latinas, Asian and Pacific Island communities, persons with disabilities, immigrants and




refugees, women in later life, LGBT survivors, and military families. Authors of this book remind to the reader that one size does not fit all, and that helping can be limited when the helper does not strive to understand the realities of those they serve. Authors address domestic violence in rural environments and among teens, as well as the role of religion in shaping attitudes and behavior. Lettie L. Lockhart is professor of social work at the University of Georgia and director of the School of Social Work Training Program. Fran S. Danis is associate professor and associate dean at the University of Texas, Arlington's School of Social Work.

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